

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application, as amended herein. Claims 1-28 were pending in the application. In this amendment, Claim 11 has been canceled, Claims 1, 12, and 13 have been amended; and no new claims have been added. Therefore, Claims 1-10 and 12-28 are pending in the application. Applicants acknowledge with thanks the Examiner's allowance of Claims 13-28 and the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in each of Claims 11 and 12.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner indicated that Claims 11 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. As suggested by the Examiner, Applicants have amended Claim 1, being the base claim, and included all of the limitations of Claim 11. Claim 11 has been cancelled and Claim 12 has been amended to correct antecedent basis. The Examiner's assistance in accurately describing allowable subject matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Claims 2-10 and 12 depend from amended Claim 1, which the Examiner has indicated is allowable as amended. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent Claims 2-10 and 12 are also allowable.

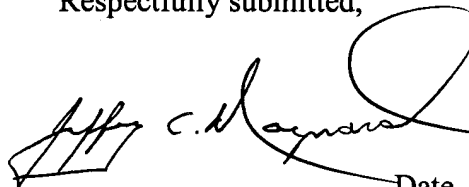
Claim 13 has been amended to correct a typographical error.

CONCLUSION

Applicants have made a diligent effort to address the objections and rejections identified by the Examiner and respectfully submit that the outstanding objections and rejections in the Office Action have been overcome. In view of the above amendments and remarks, all pending

claims are believed to be patentable, and thus, the case is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowability is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience. In the event that there is any question concerning this response, or the application in general, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below so that additional changes may be discussed.

Respectfully submitted,

 8/14/04
Date _____

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